

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Vol. 27, No. 5

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, January 3, 1963

## Silver Anniversary Brochure on Sale

The Silver Anniversary brochure, commemorating the first 25 years of Greenbelt's history, is now on sale. The price is \$1 per copy.

The News Review delivery boys, under the direction of Victor Fisher, 2-H Gardenway (GR 4-6787), will handle the sale of the brochure. They will make house-to-house calls beginning this weekend.

The brochure, of 9" by 12" size, consists of 48 slick pages of text, photographs, cartoons, and maps. A recent aerial view of Greenbelt appears on the cover.

In addition to the material published earlier this summer in the News Review, the brochure contains many other features, including an introductory message from Mayor Francis W. White. There is a complete list of the First Families of Greenbelt and their children still residing in Greenbelt. Four pages of photographs depict early views of the town, and incidents and events of historical and social interest. A historical map of early Greenbelt is accompanied by descriptive text.

A special section contains photographs and other material dealing with Greenbelt's observance of its Silver Anniversary, including the Anniversary Ball on October 27, 1962, the luncheon for the First Families, and the Open House sponsored by the Goddard Space Flight Center.

The brochure was prepared by an editorial and production staff consisting of Alfred M. Skolnik, Elaine Skolnik, Mary Louise Williamson, Dorothy Sucher, and Harry Zubkoff. Material was provided by the News Review, with the assistance of local organizations.

## Lastner Assigns New County Commissioners

Members of the Prince George's County Board of Commissioners were assigned areas of responsibility Friday by Chairman Frank J. Lastner, veteran commissioner from Greenbelt.

Lastner explained that he was making the appointments after consultation with the commissioners on their various areas of interest and that further appointments would be made in the future.

Mrs. Gladys Spellman was appointed to the Prince George's General Hospital Board and, as the Commission member, automatically becomes chairman of that board. She will replace former Commissioner Herbert W. Reichelt in the post.

Mrs. Spellman was also appointed to serve as Commission member on the County Welfare Board, replacing Chairman Lastner.

Commissioner Robert F. Sutphin will join Lastner on the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, of which Lastner was recently elected Vice-Chairman.

Vice-Chairman M. Bayne Brooke will remain as liaison commissioner with County police and fire units, while Commissioner Jesse S. Baggett will serve as liaison with the Public Works Department.

In making the appointments, Lastner said he felt strongly that the program of having the various commissioners work closely with individual departments greatly increases the efficiency of the Board.

"It has been my own experience," he continued, "and I feel that this practice generally helps the commissioners to become more intimately acquainted with the operations of the various departments and by reporting back to the entire board enables us all to do a better job."

Remember! Beginning January 7, it costs five cents to mail a letter.

## Howard Chasanow Is Asst. State's Attorney

Howard S. Chasanow, of 56 Lakeside Drive, has been appointed an Assistant State's Attorney and will take office January 7, 1963. He is the first Greenbelter to be appointed to that post.

Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Chasanow, local realtor and attorney, was educated in Greenbelt schools and at the University of Maryland. He was graduated from the University of Maryland Law School where he was No. 1 in his class and received numerous honors and awards, including the John S. Strahorn, Jr. Memorial Prize, the Walter L. Clark Scholarship, the U.S. Law Week Award, and election to Order of the Coif, the national legal honor society. He placed 4th highest in the state in the Maryland Bar Examinations and was admitted to the bar in 1961. He attended Harvard Law School the following year, where he was appointed a judge of the famous Ames Competition and received his Master of Laws degree.

Howard was also Casenote Editor of the Maryland Law Review, which published one of his articles relating to criminal law and has accepted another for publication. He has just completed a tour of active duty with the U.S. Army at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he served as defense counsel in a court martial trial.

In addition to his work as a criminal prosecutor, Howard will maintain a law office at 151 Centerway in partnership with his father in the newly formed firm of Chasanow & Chasanow.

## The Police Blotter

The manager at the A & P in the Beltway Plaza reported to police that he had apprehended two persons in the act of shoplifting four cartons of cigarettes. The cigarettes were returned to the manager. The manager also complained of persons who left their groceries in unlocked cars on the Plaza parking lot and then went on to shop in other stores. This practice is not unusual in many shopping center parking lots, but police warn that it is an invitation to thieves.

Police are checking on the description, given by a witness, of a vehicle involved in a hit and run accident which occurred at the intersection of Research and Hillside. It is believed that the operator of the vehicle tried to stop at the stop sign but, because of the icy condition of the road slid on through the intersection, striking a parked Cadillac. Estimated damage was \$200.

A slightly embarrassing, but not serious, situation has developed at the city office, which happens to be the home base for the Police department also. Keys to the rest rooms are missing. There are no clues as to their whereabouts.

The snow and icy roads have been the major problems for the police office this week.

A boy was injured at the intersection of Ridge and Edmonston. He suffered a simple fracture of the leg while sleigh riding.

There were several complaints of youngsters hanging on to car bumpers. This, police warn, is very hazardous to both the youths and drivers. There were other complaints of youths throwing snowballs at street lights, cars and homes.

A three-car accident was reported on Ridge Road near Westway on the morning of January 1st. A Greenbelt youth, driving a borrowed car and without a permit, hit two parked cars with the resulting damage estimated at about \$200. The youth was charged with driving without a license.

## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING COUNCIL OF CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Jan. 7, 1963

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes of Regular meeting of Dec. 17, 1962.
4. Petitions & requests
5. Additions to agenda by councilmen & manager.
6. Written communications.
7. Manager's progress report.
8. Committee report.
9. Ordinance - to appropriate from surplus for engineering services.
10. Appointment of advisory planning board member.
11. Salary-appointed official.
12. Appraisal of news media.

## Spectacular Bonfire Promised in Tree Burning

The annual tree burning, which will be held on Saturday, January 5, will take place at 8 p.m. at the rear of the Firehouse.

Youngsters may bring discarded Christmas trees to the following pick-up points on Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. — North End School, Jewish Community Center, Methodist Church. They will be given tickets for admission to see an all-cartoon show at the Firehouse which will be shown on Saturday, January 12 at 12 noon. Trees may be brought to the Firehouse, too.

Firemen plan to make the blaze a spectacular sight by adding certain powders which should produce brilliant colors when the trees burn. The public is invited to view the spectacle and also enjoy coffee or hot chocolate which will be served by the Ladies Auxiliary from their kitchen. The firehouse will be open for inspection to all.

## New Regional Library

Prince George's County Memorial Library this year started construction of the first of three regional libraries in the biggest expansion program of its history, according to a year-end statement by Miss Elizabeth B. Hage, director.

The new million-dollar regional library, located at Adelphi and Toledo Roads in Hyattsville, is scheduled to open next October. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held Oct. 15.

## Decorator to Speak

Newcomers' Club of the University of Maryland will hear Carlos Recker, Jr. speak on "How an Interior Decorator Can Help You" January 9 at 8 p.m. in the Maryland Room on the College Park Campus.

Mr. Recker is a graduate of Brown University and the New York School of Design. Since 1948 he has operated Top Recker Interiors, a decorating business in Alexandria, Virginia. He is a member of the American Institute of Interior Designers and was president of the D. C. Chapter '60-'61.

## Reporter Gives Eye Witness Account of Tragic Cave-In

By Rita Fisher

I happened to be at the firehouse last Friday afternoon when the fireboard radio announced a call for ambulances to go to the scene of the tragic cave-in at the construction site of the new Klein's store at the Beltway shopping center. Shortly afterwards I also went to the scene to provide hot coffee for the men and was able to witness the disastrous accident and also the heroic and hazardous rescue operations performed by many men from many fire companies.

The call originally came in over the radio stating that a wall had caved in on ten men at 6000 Greenbelt Road. This was the first of a series of communications carried on throughout the afternoon and into the night. Information was sought and requests were made through this radio communications system.

As time passed, the extreme seriousness of the accident became more and more apparent. Equipment trucks were called for, men were advised to wear boots and bring shovels, and all were asked to bring back-boards. Three persons were carried to a hospital in one ambulance. Then another three. And then the first call that notified the fire-board that one possible DOA was being carried out.

From the firehouse I called Mary Frances Wiser, another member of our Ladies Auxiliary, and she came down right away, while I prepared the urn. Then we took off for the scene of the accident with the hot urn, cups, sugar, and cream for the rescue workers.

A State Trooper was stopping all cars at the entrance to the Beltway Plaza so the way would be clear for emergency vehicles. We explained our mission and were allowed through but when we saw the mud we parked close to the shopping center and walked. We sloshed through mud and snow spilling coffee on our coats, but we reached the spot overlooking the hole and set up there. However, we soon realized that the coffee was needed by the men down at the bottom of the excavation, so we waited until we could get a ride on the light pick-up truck which was able to get through the mud. This truck was being used to carry the men who had been trapped. The ambulances could not go down into the area and this truck was used as a shuttle.

As we watched and waited the little truck came back up the hill. When it stopped, several men jumped out and then we watched as they transferred the body of one of the men who had been found dead.

We went down into the mud-hole and set up our coffee urn in the back of a Branchville truck. It wasn't much to offer, but the men kept us busy serving coffee. At that point, they would have accepted anything, as long as it was hot.

## Recreation Review

by James A. Wooldridge

Registration for Hawaiian and Polynesian Dancing will be held Thursday, January 3rd, 7:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. Dorothy Grimes will be the instructor. This is open to all age groups and will run for 10 lessons.

Monday, January 7, at 7 p.m. registration for art classes will be held. Instructor is Mrs. Sari Shiren. Classes will be open for all age groups. Cost of the 10 lessons does not include materials.

The AAA Safety Patrol Christmas Party was a complete success. Sgt. Green sent 143 patrols home full of ice cream, cake, and happy chatter about all the things they did.

Due to the snow last Friday, Santa's helicopter was grounded; but the Recreation Department arranged to have him at the Youth Center on time. Over 85 youngsters and parents braved the weather to greet Santa.

Ballet lessons will begin Friday, January 4, at 4 p.m. at the Youth Center.

Men's Gym will resume classes on Monday, January 7, at the regular time.

Will all those who played on the Babe Ruth League teams during the past season please return their uniforms. A meeting of all players will be held on Saturday, January 5, at 1 p.m. at the Youth Center.

They had been digging in the mud with their bare hands, pulling out men who were trapped. In one spot, they pulled out three men lying next to each other. Only the man in the middle was alive.

At one point, fireboard radio was asked to contact Glendale Hospital and get a time-sheet. We thought that this was an odd thing to be requesting at that time but we later found out that the construction foreman was one of those who had been killed and that he had had a list of names of the workers. It developed that these men were hired by the day and only the foreman knew how many men were working on the wall. The list had to be retrieved from his clothing.

As the work went on, the mud and clay became more hazardous. The Silver Spring crew was called to bring its equipment, which included flood-lights, so that operations could continue after dark. The men worked on and on. I watched as they made numerous attempts to hook on a collapsed wooden wall so that it could be raised — a difficult task. When they finally got it up, no bodies were found underneath.

We were running out of coffee but there was a small electric stove on the truck and one of the burners was working. We used water out of a small tank and instant coffee and were able to keep supplying more until Fran, who had gotten a ride back to the firehouse, arrived with another urn. The coffee went fast. We served to firemen, rescue squadmen, local, county, and state policemen, and the many reporters and photographers who were on the scene. One of the reporters was walking around with a tape-recorder, making an on-the-scene report.

We were just about out of coffee when I learned that the Red Cross had arrived and set up a canteen on the hill. The County Auxiliary Canteen, driven from Oxon Hill, had also come, and it too, had to remain on top because of the condition of the ground in the excavation. But a few of the Berwyn Heights Auxiliary, who had been preparing sandwiches at their firehouse, came down with more coffee and sandwiches. Their other women were up in the Canteen preparing whatever was needed. Soon after, my relief arrived on the scene, and I trudged up the hill and down again to where my car was parked. Unfortunately I wasn't wearing boots, so I arrived home muddy as well as tired.

Later that evening I received a call which sent me back to the firehouse to pick up cans of coffee, tuna fish, evaporated milk and more cups. This time my husband came with me and he fitted me with a pair of boots at the firehouse. Back we went, in time to watch operations halted for the night. All but one of the workmen had been accounted for. The family of a Baltimore man had informed police that the missing man had stated that he was going to look for work at the site that day and they had not yet heard from him. However, fortunately, he was located elsewhere, safe, later that evening.

The men were preparing to leave the Greenbelt scene and go to a fire at the Las Vegas Club on the Marlboro Pike where a second alarm had already been sounded. I left the supplies with the Canteen and went home.

I've been told that another section caved in later that night after the area had been secured. Other sections are reported still collapsing. The area is now under 24-hour surveillance by County Police.

Officials all agree that the tragedy could have been avoided if our state had a law requiring the shoring, or bracing, of the dirt surrounding such excavations.



# GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$2.00 per year: (\$3.00 out of Greenbelt). Advertising and news articles may be submitted by mail (Box 68, Greenbelt), deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Savings and Loan Office or delivered to the editorial offices in the basement of 15 Parkway (GR 4-4131), open after 8:30 p.m., Tuesday. News deadline 9:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Volume 27, Number 5

Thursday, January 3, 1963

## The Name Is Familiar

(ED. Note: Our columnist departs from her usual style in these biographical columns and uses the form of an "open letter" to Virginia Beauchamp, our retiring editor).

So, Virginia! George has at last received his assignment, and the Beauchamps are off to Nigeria, where the climate is humid and tropical (although the water is said to be potable), and where you will cope superbly as usual. But what on earth will the News Review do without you?

You remarked placidly, "Everything will go along just as before. People move on, and others come to take their place." It isn't as simple as that, you know. Your particular style of life won't be replaced. Once you and George and the children have left, Greenbelt will always be a slightly different place.

Some one else will live in the Beauchamp house. But your house will have vanished and with it the oversize chair chosen to fit George's oversize frame (the chair that flips you over on your back with your feet in the air, if you don't watch out); the sofa (which I call a couch and you call a davenport) often harboring a small boy taking a nap; the oriental paintings, mementoes of a trip to Japan; and the large table where we have so often made up the newspaper on a Wednesday night.

Perhaps the new tenants will coax flowers to grow in the shady spot in the back. You were content to see three flourishing children at play there. Will the newcomers let my four-year-old pick apples from the tree? Or park his tricycle in the yard overnight? I doubt it.

I'll let you in on a secret, Virginia. You're a horrible example of an irritating type: the paragon who's nice to dislike. How could I sit beside you at the copy desk week after week, realizing full well that you always know how to spell difficult words and whether or not to capitalize them and not come to detest you?

How could I bear to watch you coping with a teaching job at the University, and three children all under the age of six, and the absence of a husband suddenly called up with his Reserve unit, while at the same time you always managed to look young, slim, and attractive. The trouble is, you never gave me a chance to hate you. Virginia, was that fair?

I think I saw you rattled for the first time one night this fall. You were saying that George's orders had finally come through; and that your house (which had been sold) now had to be sold again; and that the president of the nursery school had resigned, leaving you, the vice-president, in charge. And you had to get shots, and buy things, and store things, and ship things... You seemed calm enough until the end, and then you wailed, "But on top of it, Halloween is coming—and Halloween is more than I can bear!" It was an endearing admission.

"I've never done anything," you protested, when I warned you that you would probably be interviewed if you persisted in your mad scheme of resigning from the editorship and leaving for Africa. But after we'd talked a while, you admitted, I suppose some people might say I've lived a rather adventurous life. You sounded surprised.

Perhaps some of the adventure is in your blood. When you were

three years old, your farmer father suddenly sold all his livestock and equipment, rented the farm acres, and went off to college. Now, a university professor, he can look back upon a long and satisfying teaching career. At the time, though, the neighbors were quite convinced he had lost his wits.

Your family moved every couple of years while you were growing up, and you make it sound like fun. I like your stories about the mining town of Negaunee, Michigan, where the houses were forever being trundled off to a new location because the company kept tunnelling and therefore the streets kept collapsing. The ground may have quaked beneath your feet, and yet your two years in Negaunee don't seem to have given you a feeling of insecurity.

After your farm years in Michigan, Nigeria ought to be a snap. You've known what it's like to live without running water or electricity. You've existed for months on K-rations and avocados in the Philippines. At Batangas, the main supply base for the U. S. Army, the ratio of American men to women was about 1500 to 1; and the men had just come from several years of combat in the Pacific. You did your work, stenciled decorations on the walls of the Red Cross canteen, and turned down proposals of marriage—all with equal imperturbability. And more recently you've managed to survive years of organizational infighting in darkest Greenbelt.

By now I'd guess you're a fairly adaptable woman.

"I'm an activist," I've heard you

## Shamrocks 4-H Outing

by Chris Linstrom

Last Wednesday, December 26, the Shamrocks 4-H club went on a tour of some of the buildings of Washington, including the Voice of America building, the Washington Monument, and the Peace Corps building. We also visited the Pageant of Peace and saw the huge Christmas tree - a gift from the people of Colorado climaxed the Avenue of normal sized Christmas trees representing the other states and the United States possessions.

say. "If I see something that needs improvement, my impulse is always to get to work. Not to sit around brooding about the decline of my life and times. I joined the Red Cross while the war was still on because I felt that the war was the significant experience of my generation, and I wanted to be a part of it. Our morale was always highest in the most difficult situations. When there's a great deal to be done, you have a sense of purpose and accomplishment. Today I feel that the significant experience of our time lies in the field of international relations. So much is urgently needed! You just want to contribute your mite..."

Goodbye, then, Virginia, George, Edith, little George, and John. The very best of luck to you! It's been fun, and you'll be missed. Perhaps some day we'll meet again.

Affectionately,  
Dorothy Sucher

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## NEWS OF NEIGHBORS

AO3 Brian Moore is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Moore, 2-D Westway, during the holidays. Young Moore is stationed aboard the aircraft carrier Constellation.

Harry R. Hetzler, airman apprentice, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Hetzler of 21-K Ridge, was graduated from Aviation Familiarization School on November 15, at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Memphis, Tennessee. The two-week course covers flight theory, survival procedures, safety, and fire-fighting.

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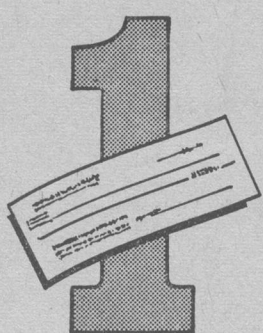
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Announcing Winner of  
Co-op Label Contest

Congratulations to

CALVIN STAPLER

of 2-G Gardenway 12 year old  
who turned in a grand total of  
295 Co-op labels to win the beautiful new three speed bicycle.

and to

PAMELA CORBIN

16-Z-3 Ridge Rd. - 641 labels

## LAMB SALE

RIB CHUCK	lb. 79c	SHOULDER ROAST	lb. 35c
LOIN CHUCK	lb. 99c	SHOULDER CHUCK blade cut	lb. 59c
LAMB BREAST	lb. 10c	SHOULDER CHUCK round bone	lb. 69c
SMOKED PICNICS	.....	whole lb. 29c sliced lb. 33c	

### Finest Fruits & Vegetables

Iceberg Lettuce	-	2 heads 29c
Winesap Apples	-	4 lbs cello 39c
Sweet Potatoes	-	4 lbs. 29c
Kale or Spinach	-	2 10 oz. cello 35c

### Grocery Specials

Ice Cream — Save 30c  
All Flavors Co-op Brand

1/2 gallon 59c

French Fried Potatoes — Mr. G.  
Frozen 9 oz. package 10c

### Bakery Specials

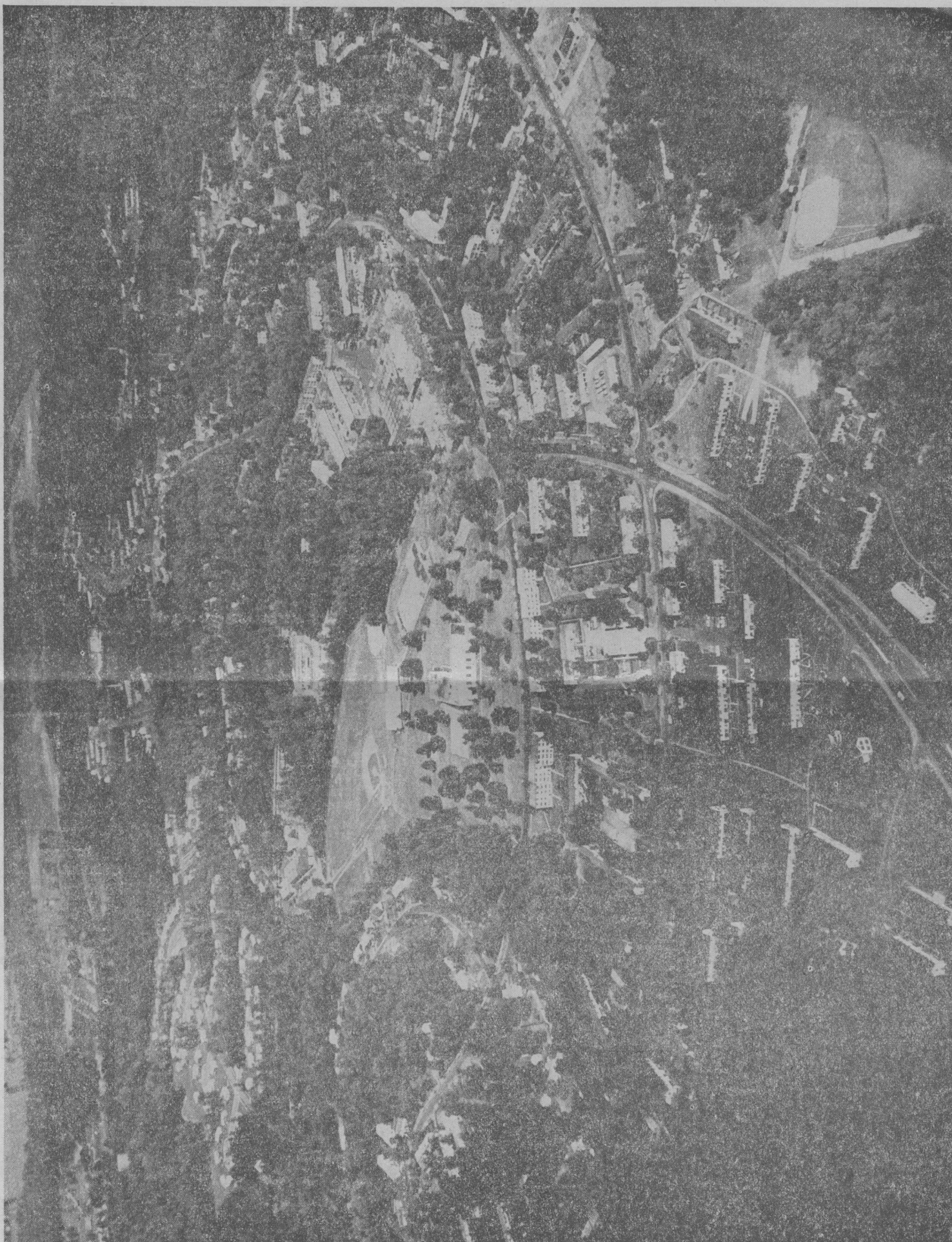
Snowflake Rolls	-	Pack of 12 33c
Cherry Pie	-	27 oz. 49c

Come In and See Our  
Complete Selection of  
Deli Items



# Anniversary Brochure Goes On Sale

## 25th ANNIVERSARY



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1937 - 1962

## Only Complete History Of Greenbelt

Send your friends copies of this special 48-page brochure which reviews the wonderful years of the growth and development of our unique community.

Sales will be made by News Review delivery boys on house-to-house calls. Be ready to tell your boy how many copies you will need. Only \$1 per copy.